The Lunch Break

We hope you have enjoyed reading our comic about life in a Derry shirt factory. Here are some activities to help you explore some of the themes.

1) The factory workers in the comic story were all women, yet the Manager was a man. Why do you think this was the case?

2) One of the women in the comic talks about her husband following his return from the First World War. What problems did many men face when they came home to their family after the War? Do some research and write a short piece for the local newspaper about what life was like for many of these ex soldiers.

3) The 20th century was a time of great social change. After reading the comic what sort of changes were the women talking about? Find out more about life in the 1920s.

4) Throughout the comic, a number of local Derry phrases are used. Can you spot any? What do they mean and where do you think they came from?

5) The story is based in Tillie and Henderson’s shirt factory which was one of the biggest factories the city. Find out more about this factory and the names of three other ones in the city at this time? Why do you think this is not the case today?

6) At the end of the comic Betty says she is going to tell everyone about the Women’s Suffrage meeting that’s coming up. What was this meeting about? Can you find out more about the Suffragette Movement?

7) Life for women has changed a lot since 1920. Make a list of things that are different for women today.